

Raa Middle School
2010 Summer Reading List
Incoming Advanced Sixth Graders*

A Week in the Woods—Andrew Clements

Inkheart or Inkspell, Cornelia Funke

Ghost Boy—Ian Lawrence

Treasure Island—Robert Lewis Stevenson

Eragon—Christopher Paolini (Or, anyone in this series)

Sixth Grade Secrets--Louis Sachar

Chronicles of Narnia--C.S. Lewis (Or, anyone in this series)

The Mysterious Benedict Society—Trenton Lee Stewart/Diana Sudyka (Or, sequel)

The Hunger Games—Suzanne Collins

White Fang—Jack London

The City of Ember—Jeanne Duprau (Or, anyone in this series)

The Midnight Twins—Jacquelyn Mitchard

Warriors #1: Into the Wild—Erin Hunter (Or, anyone in this series)

Assignment

1. Read two of the suggested novels.
2. Complete a 6th grade reading form (See Below) for each book.
3. Hand the assignments to your 6th grade Language Arts teacher the first day of class in August.

Enjoy!

*Gifted/Talented Language Arts has a different list and assignment.

Summer Reading Book Report - upcoming 6th graders

Student Name _____

After you have completed the book, fill out this form.

This form must be signed by a parent/guardian in order to receive credit.

Title: _____

Author: _____

Setting (place and time): _____

Characters: There are _____ (spell out number) main character(s).

Name Description

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Compare and Contrast Two Characters

Conflict: Describe the main problem or complication in the story.

How is the problem solved?

Plot: In complete sentences, give five main plot elements in chronological order. Be sure to use the characters' names and give details.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Evaluation of the book: Using complete sentences and details from the book, explain why you liked or disliked the book.

On a scale of one to five, how would you compare this book with others you have read?

Dislike 1 2 3 4 5 Love

Parent Signature

Email address

Home phone

 cell number

 work number

Summer Reading

6th Gifted/Talented

Raa Middle School

Students may choose one book from the following list. This reading is required for the gifted and talented class. The assignment is to be turned in the first Friday class. Students may receive extra credit by donating the book they read to the classroom library.

Books and Blurbs

Tom's Midnight Garden, Phillipa Pearce. Tom is furious. His brother, Peter, has measles, so now Tom is being shipped off to stay with Aunt Gwen and Uncle Alan in their boring old apartment. Then one night the landlady's antique grandfather clock strikes thirteen times, leading Tom to a wonderful, magical discovery and marking the beginning of a secret that's almost too amazing to be true. Tom discovers a special friend named Hatty and more than a summer's worth of adventure for both of them!

Sounder, William Armstrong. It is the story of an African-American boy living with his sharecropper family in Depression-era Louisiana. Although the family's difficulties increase when the father is imprisoned for stealing pig meat and chicken, the boy still hungers for an education.

The Yearling, Marjorie K. Rawlings. No novel better epitomizes the love between a child and a pet than *The Yearling*. Young Jody adopts an orphaned fawn he calls Flag and makes it a part of his family and his best friend. But life in the Florida backwoods is harsh, and so, as his family fights off wolves, bears, and even alligators, and faces failure in their tenuous subsistence farming, Jody must finally part with his dear animal friend. There has been a film and even a musical based on this moving story, a fine work of great American literature.

Zach's Lie, Roland Smith. Zach Granger has to tell many lies; for one, his name is really Jack Osborne, and for another his parents aren't divorced rather, his father, a pilot, is in prison for transporting drugs for a ruthless cartel. When his father agrees to cooperate with the DEA, his family goes into a witness protection program, with new names and a new home in Elko, Nev. Will they be safe from the cartel?

Tangerine, Edward Bloor. Soccer-playing, legally blind Paul Fisher begins to uncover the ugly truth about his football-hero brother.

Maximum Ride, James Patterson. Being a kid with wings--constantly on the run--has never been easy, and Max and her flock are getting tenser than ever. First, on a trip

to Africa, they meet a mysterious billionaire whose intense scrutiny of the flock makes her fear the worst.

October Sky, Homer Hickam. This book follows three years in the life of a coal miner's son in West Virginia who dreams of joining the space race. His dreams carry him further than he could imagine, teaching him invaluable lessons about his country, his town, his family, and himself.

A Land Remembered, Patrick Smith. The author tells the story of three generations of the MacIveys, a Florida family who battle the hardships of the frontier to rise from a dirt-poor Cracker life to the wealth and standing of real estate tycoons.

Frankenstein, Mary Shelley. Swiss medical student Victor Frankenstein discovers the secret of life (which he never reveals, lest someone repeat the mistake). He then puts together a body, essentially a man, from various corpses. He then becomes horrified by the creature he has built, and abandons him. The creature, suffering a great deal of neglect and abuse, still manages to get a thorough education, and learns of his lineage.

The Time Machine, H.G. Wells. When a Victorian scientist propels himself into the future, he is surprised that the Elfin race now running the land are not as advanced as they first appear.

Dragon Keeper, Robin Hobb. The first of Hobb's Rain Wild Chronicles, an absorbing extension of her *Liveship* and *Tawny Man* trilogies, introduces 15 young dragons who struggle to survive with the grudging help of mutant Rain Wilders.

The King's Fifth, Scott O'Dell. This book is filled with unforgettable characters, action, romance, and danger. If you like historical fiction, adventure stories, or just great books, don't miss out. Read this book.

The Hobbit, J.R.R. Tolkien. Bilbo Baggins is an upstanding member of a "little people, about half our height, and smaller than the bearded dwarves. He is, like most of his kind, well off, well fed, and best pleased when sitting by his own fire with a pipe, a glass of good beer, and a meal to look forward to. Certainly this particular hobbit is the last person one would expect to see set off on a hazardous journey; indeed, when Gandalf the Grey stops by one morning, "looking for someone to share in an adventure," Baggins fervently wishes the wizard elsewhere. No such luck, however; soon 13 fortune-seeking dwarves have arrived on the hobbit's doorstep in search of a burglar, and before he can even grab his hat or an umbrella, Bilbo Baggins is swept out his door and into a dangerous adventure

Gifted/Talented Summer Reading Assignment Raa Middle School

Once you have finished the book, you will need to decide which project you will complete for your assignment. All projects are due the first Friday of class. Choose from one of the options below.

1. After reading the book, write a script for a commercial to persuade others to read the book. Have someone video your commercial for the book. Include:
 - a. Information about the author
 - b. Main characters
 - c. Action from the beginning, middle and end of the book
 - d. Your recommendation and your reasoningThis commercial should be no more than 3 minutes. You may use your musical or other performing arts talents in the commercial. Bring the commercial to class on a thumb drive. Do not send it in as an attachment via email.
2. After reading the book, prepare a presentation board to advertise your book. Include information about the author, a summary of the major events in the story including the major characters, and your recommendation of the book and why. Please make sure your poster is neat, typed, colorful, and if possible, add a 3-D touch! Use a tri-fold project board size 14"x33" (small). Try to make it "interactive" in that the viewer has to lift up something to look under it or have a recording to push.
3. After reading the book, pick your favorite part and write a script for that part. Prepare a set to act out this part of the book. Have someone video it for you and bring it in on a thumb drive. This activity should be no longer than 5 minutes. You may be the actor or you could develop a puppet set to act out the part. If you play an instrument, you could tape the music and add it to the background.
4. Keep a reading journal as you read. Try to read 30-45 minutes each sitting. Either draw or find a picture that represents what you read about. Each journal entry would be a summary of what you read, a picture, and then your thoughts about what you read and what you think will happen next. Each entry should be minimum one page. The collected journal entries should be put together into a booklet and decorated. Bring to class the first Friday.